



JEREMY M. HUGHES, Ph.D.
INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT
OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

2005 NCLB HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHER UPDATE

Office of Professional Preparation Services
June 3, 2005

WHEN DO ALL TEACHERS HAVE TO MEET NCLB HIGHLY QUALIFIED REQUIREMENTS?

NCLB requires that all teachers of core academic subjects demonstrate that they are highly qualified by the end of the 2005-06 school year. This means that beginning Fall 2006 all teachers assigned to teach core academic subjects must be highly qualified.

SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS

In December 2004, the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) was reauthorized as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA). Middle and secondary self-contained special education classroom teachers must demonstrate that they are highly qualified in each core academic subject that they teach. In Michigan, special education teachers who hold an elementary or secondary teaching certificate and have passed the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification (MTTC) general elementary test are considered highly qualified for assignment as a self-contained special education classroom teacher in grades K-12.

Experienced secondary or elementary certified special education teachers also have the option of using any of the other high objective uniform state standards of evaluation (**HOUSSE**) options as well as the newly developed **MULTI-DISCIPLINARY** portfolio. The multi-disciplinary portfolio is available on the MDE website at www.mi.gov/mde.

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION TEACHERS

The term "alternative education" is used widely throughout the state to offer different types of educational programs usually to secondary students. In some instances, the programs are designed to assist students with behavior problems. In other instances, the programs are designed to help low-achieving students. Many times the low-achieving students would be learning at the elementary school level.

In the past the MDE has allowed local districts to determine whether an elementary or secondary certified teacher would be appropriate to staff alternative education classes depending on whether the program being offered and the skill level of the students are at an elementary level or at the secondary level.

NCLB requires alternative education teachers to be highly qualified in the core academic subjects assigned to teach. **The MDE has determined that elementary certified teachers are highly qualified for assignment to a self-contained middle or secondary alternative education classroom that is taught at the elementary learning level. Secondary certified teachers with an endorsement in at least one of the core academic subjects can use the HOUSSE options, including the multidisciplinary portfolio, to demonstrate that they are highly qualified to teach core academic subjects in the self-contained middle or secondary alternative education classroom that is taught at the elementary learning level.** Middle school or secondary departmentalized alternative education classrooms in which graduation credit is earned must be staffed with appropriately certificated, endorsed and highly qualified secondary teachers.

PARAPROFESSIONALS

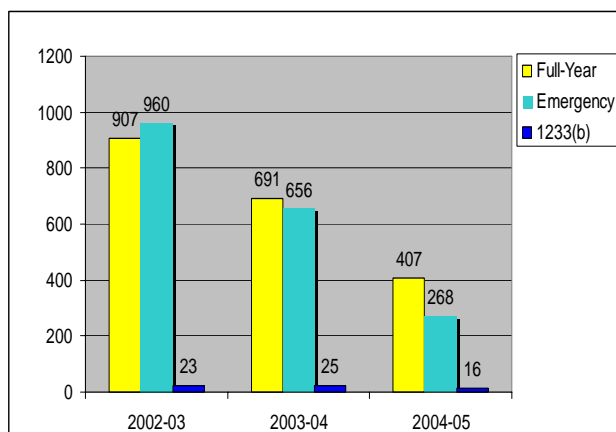
By January 8, 2006 all Title I instructional paraprofessionals must meet NCLB highly qualified requirements. Paraprofessionals may hold a two-year college degree, have completed 60 semester credit hours, take the Workeys assessment, the ETS Paraprofessional assessment, or complete the Paraprofessional Portfolio to demonstrate competency.

NOTE: Local districts should make all options for demonstrating competence available to teachers and paraprofessionals. It is the teacher's or paraprofessional's choice as to which option he/she will select to demonstrate compliance with NCLB requirements.

REVISED HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHER REPORTING FORM

All local districts/public school academies must keep on file an individual copy of the “Highly Qualified Teacher” report form for all elementary, and middle and secondary teachers of core academic subjects. The revised report form is located on the MDE website (www.mi.gov). Beginning in September 2006 the form will be requested during audits for district compliance with NCLB requirements.

MDE GOAL: Comply with NCLB by reducing Full-Year and Emergency Permits



In order to meet the highly qualified teacher requirements the MDE has been gradually reducing the number of full-year and emergency permits.

MDE HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHER AUDIT

The MDE’s Office of Professional Preparation Services will be conducting onsite and desk audits during summer 2005 to validate teaching assignments submitted via the Register of Educational Personnel (REP). The REP submission deadline is June 30, 2005. The onsite and desk audits will require districts to submit their 2004-05 class assignment rosters. The assignment rosters will be reviewed for consistency with the REP data.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Following are a few websites that offer online professional development to assist teachers in their

need for content specific professional development:

ASSIST: <http://assist.educ.msu.edu/ASSIST/>

Teacher to Teacher:

<http://www.ed.gov/teachers/how/tools/initiative/index.html>

Learnport: www.learnport.org

SB-CEU: www.solutionwhere.com

Michigan Teacher Network: www.mtn.merit.edu

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT MEETING THE HIGHLY QUALIFIED REQUIREMENTS

- MDE is required to provide technical assistance to districts/schools in non-compliance.
- MDE can direct the use of all Title II funds and 5% of Title I funds to assure that teachers become highly qualified.
- MDE has the authority to recommend a state aid penalty if districts/schools fail to comply.
- The United States Department of Education (USDOE) can withhold a portion or all of the state’s Title I and Title II funds if districts fail to comply.

STATE PERCENTAGE OF HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHERS

June 2004	91%
December 2004	93%

MICHIGAN EDUCATOR TALENT BANK

The State Board of Education (SBE) and the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) are proud to provide this online professional school personnel recruitment site to educators and administrators. METB is an efficient way to conduct a job search or fill position vacancies with highly qualified teachers. Job seekers can post their resumes and search for positions for which they are qualified. School administrators can post and update position vacancies, and review resumes of potential job candidates.

There is no charge to Michigan schools and educational organizations that wish to post job positions with METB or search resumes for potential employees. Visit the METB site today at www.mi.gov/mde for more details.

The Board and the Department are committed to assuring that all Michigan children are taught by highly qualified teachers.